



LOCAL EMPOWERMENT FOR GOVERNMENT INCLUSION AND TRANSPARENCY

March 2016-March 2019 | Implementer: DAI

The Local Empowerment for Government Inclusion and Transparency (LEGIT) project seeks to increase accountability, transparency, and effectiveness with respect to sub-national government resources in Liberia. LEGIT provides support to the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and the Governance Commission (GC) as they lead, monitor, and coordinate the implementation of the Government's decentralization agenda. LEGIT also strengthens sub-national institutions in three counties (Bong, Nimba and Grand Gedeh) and three cities (Gbarnga, Ganta and Zwedru) to be more transparent and responsive to citizens with respect to information on how public resources are used at sub-national levels.

LEGIT supports participatory decision-making approaches that improve citizen participation and monitoring of existing and future services provided at the sub-national levels. Lastly, LEGIT focuses on developing and strengthening working relationships between government and citizens.

LEGIT seeks to achieve four complementary objectives:

- Increased capacity of Government of Liberia institutions to make incremental and sustained progress in the implementation of the National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance;
- Improved performance and strengthened capacity of county administrations to coordinate and provide oversight of Government of Liberia activities across sectors;
- Improved capacity of cities to manage revenues and deliver key services; and
- Increased citizen representation in planning and decision-making regarding service delivery in counties and cities.

Current Activities

- Support the review of existing Standard Operating Procedures related to the National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance;
- Work with MIA and GC to improve communications with county governments;

- Conduct training on fiscal aspects of decentralization for county governments;
- Conduct capacity building workshops for county staff to improve existing outreach mechanisms;
- Develop training plans, financial management handbooks/guidelines, and internal control procedures for cities to improve financial management;
- Produce city boundary maps with details on service delivery;
- Provide training for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on social accountability tools;
- Support CSOs to conduct social audits of county and city governments' service delivery.

Accomplishments to date

- Established partnerships and signed Memorandum of Cooperation with Government of Liberia for project implementation;
- Completed city mapping exercise of structures and service delivery points in Ganta, Gbarnga and Zwedru Cities;
- Service charters signed between county administrations and citizens in Bong, Nimba and Grand Gedeh counties aimed at enhancing participation of citizens in service delivery and setting service-delivery standards;
- Facilitated the development of grant proposals by 3 counties, 3 cities, 12 CSOs and the GC for its grants, which intend to strengthen grantees improve service delivery and enhance citizens participation in governances at the national and sub-national levels; and
- Completed Political Economy Analysis, CSO Profiling, Social Inclusion and Gender Awareness Assessment to inform the implementation of project activities.

Planned Outcomes

- Increased capacity of Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Governance Commission to make incremental and sustained progress in the implementation of the National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance;
- Improved performance and strengthened capacity of county administrations to coordinate and provide oversight of GOL activities across sectors; and
- Increased citizen representation in planning and decision-making regarding service delivery in counties and cities.